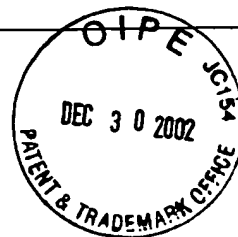


TRANSMITTAL FORM

Attorney Docket No.
1911PIn re the application: **Matt HENDRICKSON et al.**Serial No: **09/728,250**Group Art Unit: **2176**Filed: **November 30, 2000**Examiner: **Bashore, William L.**For: **Online Guided Resume Creation System That Allows Dynamic Style Formatting**

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/>	Assignment and Recordation Cover Sheet	<input type="checkbox"/>	After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	After Final	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/>	Information disclosure statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Letter to Draftsman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Form 1449	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/>	Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/>	(X) Copies of References	<input type="checkbox"/>	Petition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension of Time Request *	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fee Address Indication Form	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/>	Express Abandonment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Terminal Disclaimer	- Appeal Brief Transmittal - Appendix A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Certified Copy of Priority Doc	<input type="checkbox"/>	Power of Attorney and Revocation of Prior Powers		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Response to Incomplete Appln	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change of Correspondence Address		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Response to Missing Parts	*Extension of Term: Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136, Applicant petitions the Commissioner to extend the time for response for one month(s), from December 15, 2002 to January 15, 2003.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Executed Declaration by Inventor(s)				

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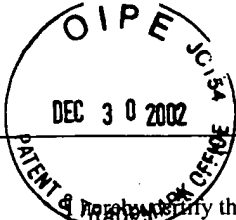
Technology Center 2100

CLAIMS					
FOR	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest # of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	RATE	FEE
Total Claims	46	46	0	\$18.00	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	8	8	0	\$84.00	\$ 0.00
				Total Fees	\$ 0.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Check no. 5397 in the amount of \$430.00 is enclosed for payment of fees.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charge \$ _____ to Deposit Account No. _____ (Account Holder Name) for payment of fees.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2120 (Sawyer Law Group LLP).

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Attorney Name	Joyce Tom, Reg. No. 48,681
Signature	
Date	December 23, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: December 23, 2002	
Type or printed name	Grace Alicea
Signature	



Attorney Docket: 1911P

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Grace Alicea

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In Re Application of:

Date: December 23, 2002

Matt HENDRICKSON et al.

Serial No: 09/728,250

Group Art Unit: 2176

Filed: November 30, 2000

Examiner: Bashore, William L.

For: ONLINE GUIDED RESUME CREATION SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS
DYNAMIC STYLE FORMATTING

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APPEAL BRIEF TRANSMITTAL LETTER


Sir:

Submitted herewith are an original and two copies of an Appellant's Brief on Appeal under 37 C.F.R. § 1.192 in connection with the above-referenced Patent application. The Brief includes an Appendix.

Check no. 5396 in the amount of \$320.00 is enclosed for payment of the Appeal Brief filing fee. A duplicate of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

December 23, 2002


Joyce Tom
Attorney for Appellant
Reg. No. 48,681
(650) 493-4540



Attorney Docket: 1911P

SC
116
1-7-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

APPEAL NO:

In Re Application of: Hendrickson, et al.

Serial No: 09/728,250

Filed: November 30, 2000

For: ONLINE GUIDED RESUME CREATION SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS
DYNAMIC STYLE FORMATTING

APPELLANT'S BRIEF

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Technology Center 2100

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Grade Alicea 

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In Re Application of:

Date: December 23, 2002

Matt HENDRICKSON et al.

Serial No: 09/728,250

Group Art Unit: 2176

Filed: November 30, 2000

Examiner: Bashore, William L.

For: **ONLINE GUIDED RESUME CREATION SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS
DYNAMIC STYLE FORMATTING**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APPELLANT'S BRIEF ON APPEAL

Sir:

Appellant herein files an Appeal Brief drafted in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.192(c) as follows:

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

Appellant respectfully submits that the above-captioned application is assigned, in its entirety to Individual Software Incorporated, of Pleasanton, California.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellant states that, upon information and belief, he is not aware of any co-pending appeal or interference which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on

the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-46 are pending in the present application and stand rejected. Claims 44, 45 and 46 were added in a Preliminary Amendment dated March 9, 2001. Claims 1, 2, 12, 13, 23, 34, 38, 39, 41, and 44-46 were amended in an Amendment dated December 21, 2001. Accordingly, Claims 1-46 are on appeal and all applied rejections concerning those claims are herein being appealed.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENT

All amendments have been entered.

V. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to creating a user customized resume web page using an online guided resume creation system, whereby the user can dynamically change the resume style with a single command. The style of a resume refers to its appearance, i.e. its look and feel. Each resume style projects a different "look and feel" by utilizing different formatting parameters, which include margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification, and the different styles can be iteratively applied to the user's resume until the user finds the appropriate one.

According to the present invention, this is accomplished by storing the resume data collected from the user separately from the style data. In a preferred embodiment, the user data is stored in a database, while the style data are implemented as style sheets. To create a resume, the user enters his or her information and the data is stored in the database. When the user

selects a particular resume style, the selected style is applied to the user-supplied data and then displayed. The user may then choose a different style to apply to the data, or alternatively, the user may customize a style by adjusting the settings of the formatting parameters for particular elements of the resume, such as name, address, section titles, etc. Thus, for instance, the user can modify the appearance of those elements by changing the font size or line spacing.

In another embodiment of the present invention, delimiters are automatically provided in the resume depending on the information provided by the user. As is well known in the art, delimiters are shapes or punctuation marks (commas, semicolons) that separate distinct information packets. Each resume style has its style of defining its delimiters. The present invention stores the layouts of resumes in corresponding style sheets, including the position of each field in each section within the resume and the delimiters separating those fields. For each section, each field in the section is assigned a numerical value.

During resume creation, the user enters data into relevant fields. Each style sheet includes a plurality of instruction blocks that contain a series of case statement codes. Each case statement code is associated with a numerical value that dictates how the contents in each field will be presented and the position of the delimiters, if any. The sum of the numerical values for the fields which contain data entered by the user determines which case statement code to execute. In this manner, the present invention automatically provides delimiters depending on the data provided by the user.

VI. ISSUES

The issue presented is:

1. Whether claims 1-46 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over “Resumes.com” web site (www.wwwresumes.com) and “ResuMaker” online resume creation database

(www.wwwresumes.com/resumaker/index.html) in view of Microsoft Word 2000.

VII. GROUPING OF CLAIMS

Appellant hereby states that claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38 and 44-46 do not stand or fall together, but rather claims 1-11 form one group, claims 12-22 form another group, claims 23-33 another group, claims 34-37 another group, and claims 38-43 another group. In addition, claims 44, 45 and 46 form three separate groups.

VIII. ARGUMENTS

A. Summary of the Applied Rejections

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Resumes.com” web site (www.wwwresumes.com) and “ResuMaker” online resume creation database (www.wwwresumes.com/resumaker/index.html) in view of Microsoft Word 2000. In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner stated:

ResuMaker teaches:

-an interactive, dynamically guided online resume creation system utilizing form input, and a Preview Button for previewing a resume, with the option of further modifying said resume at a user’s convenience, as well as a database (. . . compare with claim 1 “*A method for allowing a user to dynamically change . . . comprising the steps of:*”).

-a plurality of layout styles, and header Layouts for user selection, including positions within a resume’s body (ResuMaker page 10, 11 “Resume Body Layout”, also page 14 “Header Layouts”), as well as teaching layout styles (i.e. Aligned left, Partial Hierarchical, etc.) (ResuMaker page 10-11). ResuMaker does not specifically disclose each resume style defining formatting parameters for the entire online resume, including margins, font type/size, justifications, with each style having an associated style sheet including positions of fields of data. However, MS-Word teaches various resume templates (MS-Word p.2 “Contemporary”, “Elegant”, and “Professional”). It is noted that activation of each style results in both a preview and a default editable document based upon each style template, with specific formatting parameters (margins, font

type/size, justifications) specific to each style, as applied to a specific resume in its entirety (MS Word p.2-9). Additionally, MS-Word teaches a default document based upon its associated template which describes a specific resume style, including directions to click on various resume positions to type relevant information (MS-Word p.3-5, 7-9). This can also be achieved via Resume Wizard – a style and type of resume is chosen, personal data is entered, and a customized resume is displayed (MS-Word p.13-18) (compare with claim 1 “*displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection . . . style of fields of data from the database*”). . . .

-collecting data from a user via form input and bullet check marks (. . . compare with claim 1 “*collecting data from a user*”, and “*prompting the user to select one resume style from a plurality of resume styles*”).

-the steps within the ResuMaker creation process eventually results in a final previewed customized resume file . . . (. . . compare with claim 1 “*automatically creating a file from the user data*”, and “*applying the style sheet . . . transforming the file into a resume file formatted in the selected resume style*”).

Final Office Action (4/25/02), pp. 3-4. The Examiner applied substantially the same reasoning in rejecting independent claims 12, 23, 38, 44, 45 and 46.

B. The Cited Prior Art

ResuMaker.

ResuMaker creates an online resume for a user by guiding the user through a series of selection pages, into which the user enters data. The user is guided through nine selection pages.

On the first selection page, the user is asked to select colors for the resume’s background and for hyperlinks, and to select a “Resume Body Layout.” The Resume Body Layout defines how certain headings and sections in the body of the resume will be indented relative to one another. The Resume Body Layout selection defines the layout for each body section of the resume.

The second selection page permits the user to enter information for the resume header. In addition to entering contact information, the user may select a font type and color for the header and select from a plurality of header layout formats.

The third through eighth selection pages allow the user to enter resume information. Each selection page defines a “Category,” six sub-categories, and six sub-subcategories. For each category, sub, or sub subcategory, the user must select a font type and font color.

The ninth and final selection page is for the resume’s footer. Again, the user may enter information in the footer, and select a font type and color. This information will be centered on the bottom of the user’s resume.

In addition to the nine selection pages, ResuMaker includes a preview function which allows the user to view his or her resume at any time during the creation process. The user can navigate to any one of the nine selection pages to edit the resume contents or to modify a formatting selection.

MS-Word

MS-Word allows a user to create a personal resume. In one mode, the user is allowed to select from three default documents based on associated templates that describe a specific resume style (e.g., “Contemporary,” “Elegant,” and “Professional”) (MS-Word pp.1, 6). Once the template style has been chosen, an editable default document based on the selected template style is provided to the user who can then edit the document to create a resume (MS-Word pp. 3, 4, 7, 8). In another mode, the user can launch a Resume Wizard, which prompts the user to select a style, type, and headings, and to enter personal data (MS-Word pp. 10-17). The Resume Wizard then creates an editable document in the selected style and directs the user to enter additional personal data in designated areas (MS-Word p.18). In both modes, the end product is a MS Word document that can be treated like any other Word document (e.g., saved, edited, etc.).

C. Independent Claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38 and 44-46 Are Allowable Over ResuMaker in view of MS-Word.

Appellant respectfully submits that ResuMaker in view of MS Word fails to teach or suggest the present invention, as recited in independent claims 1, 12, 23, 38 and 44-46.

Accordingly, those claims are allowable over the cited references.

ResuMaker creates an online resume for a user by guiding the user through a series of selection pages, into which the user enters data. However, as admitted by the Examiner, “ResuMaker does not specifically disclose each resume style defining formatting parameters for the entire online resume, including margins, font type/size, justifications, with each style having an associated style sheet.” To correct the deficiencies of ResuMaker, the Examiner cited the resume styles and Resume Wizard of MS Word.

1. Claims 1, 12, 23, 34 and 38 are allowable over ResuMaker in view of MS-Word because the combination fails to teach or suggest a plurality of resume styles, each resume style having a corresponding style sheet describing the resume style, including positions within the resume style of fields of data from the database.

The Examiner asserts that MS Word teaches user-selectable default documents based upon an *associated templates* that describe a specific resume style. While this is true, unlike the claims of the present invention, each style template in MS Word does not have “a corresponding style sheet” and therefore the user cannot change the resume style once the template is applied to the user data.

This limitation is evidenced in the print-outs supplied by the Examiner. Page 2 of the print-out shows the selection of a “contemporary” resume style or template, and pages 3-5 show the template applied to the data of “Deborah Greer.” Page 6 shows the user changing the selection to an “elegant” resume style, but this style is *not* then applied to Deborah Greer’s resume. Instead, the “elegant” resume style is applied to the data of “Rich Andrews,” which contains totally different user data, as shown on pages 7-9. The reason MS Word does not allow the user to change styles after the style is selected and applied to user data is because MS Word

merges formatting data with the user data. In the present invention, formatting data for each style is provided in the style sheet and stored *separately* from the user data. Thus, the present invention allows the user to switch the style *of the entire resume* in a single command *without* having to reenter personal data.

Accordingly, the combination of references fails to disclose a “plurality of resume styles ..., each resume style having a corresponding style sheet describing the resume style, including positions within the resume style of fields of data from the database,” as recited in claims 1, 12, and 38, or “a plurality of style sheets” for “describing different resume styles,” “wherein each resume style defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume,” as recited in claims 23 and 34. For that reason, claims 1, 12, 23, 34 and 38 are allowable.

2. Claims 1, 12, 23, and 38 are allowable over the cited references because the combination fails to teach or suggest automatically creating a file from the user data, and applying the style sheet corresponding to the selected resume style to the file to transform the file into a resume file in the selected resume style.

Appellant respectfully submits that the combination of ResuMaker and MS-Word further fails to teach or suggest “automatically creating a file from the user data,” and “applying the style sheet corresponding to the selected resume style to the file” to “transform the file into a resume file” in the selected resume style, as recited in claims 1, 12, 23, and 38. There is no dispute that both ResuMaker and MS-Word allow a user to eventually create a customized resume file. Nevertheless, the paths taken to reach this result in ResuMaker and MS-Word are different from the path taught by the present invention.

In the present invention, style data for various resume styles are implemented as style sheets. When the user supplies his or her data, a file is automatically created from that data and the user-selected style sheet is applied to the file to transform it into the resume, which is then displayed. The user may then choose a different style sheet to apply to the data without having to reenter the data.

As stated above, neither ResuMaker nor MS-Word teaches or suggests implementing style data for an entire resume in a style sheet. Therefore, neither reference teaches or suggests the cooperation of steps of “automatically creating a file from the user data” and “applying the style sheet . . . to the file,” as recited in claims 1, 12, 23, and 38. Accordingly, for this additional reason, claims 1, 12, 23 and 38 are allowable over ResuMaker in view of MS-Word.

3. Claims 44-46 are allowable over ResuMaker in view of MS-Word because the combination fails to teach or suggest repeating the steps of selecting a style and applying it to the user data.

Appellant respectfully submits that ResuMaker in view of MS-Word fails to teach or suggest repeating the steps of “prompting the user to select one resume style,” “automatically creating a file from the user data,” and “transforming the file into a resume file” “until the user finalizes the resume file,” as recited in claims 44 and 45, or “means for allowing the user to reselect resume styles to apply to the resume file,” as recited in claims 46.

As stated above, in contrast to the present invention, the references merge the style data with the user data after the style is applied. Therefore, the user cannot repeatedly select another resume style and have that style applied to the data. Accordingly, claims 44-46 are allowable over the cited references.

4. Claim 34 is allowable over ResuMaker in view of MS-Word because the combination fails to teach or suggest automatically providing delimiters in an online resume based on the information provided by the user.

Appellant respectfully submits that ResuMaker in view of MS-Word fails to teach or suggest “automatically providing delimiters in an online resume” based on the information provided by the user, as recited in claim 34. As explained above, the present invention allows the user to enter data into a plurality of fields in a section of the resume. Each field is assigned a numerical value. The position in the resume of the data in each field and the placement of delimiters relative to the fields are determined by case statement codes. The particular case

statement code executed corresponds to the sum of the numerical values of the fields that contain data. Thus, in the present invention, the user is not required to enter delimiters to separate information packets, e.g., separating a job title with the start date.

Nothing in ResuMaker or MS-Word teaches or suggests providing delimiters automatically to the online resume *based on the data entered by the user*. Nothing teaches or suggests “assigning a numerical value to each field,” “providing a plurality of case statement codes,” and “executing the case statement code corresponding to the sum value of the combination of fields to determine . . . where the delimiters are placed relative to the fields,” as recited in claim 34.

For instance, in ResuMaker’s Header selection page the user is requested to select a Header Layout. The “Streamline Header” includes a divider line (delimiter) between the user’s name and the address/phone number. Regardless of the information entered, the divider line always appears, either above the address/phone number or below the user’s name. If no information is entered, the divider line still appears. This clearly indicates that no “case statement code corresponding to the sum value of the combination of fields” determines “where the delimiters are placed relative to the fields,” as recited in claim 34. If the opposite were true, i.e., a case statement code determines where delimiters are placed, the divider line would not appear if certain fields did not contain data.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner asserts that:

assigning numerical values to each field, and summing said values for determining field positions . . . would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of ResuMaker, because ResuMaker teaches various body layout styles. The preservation of customized appearances (of user data) in a resume suggests quantification of format data (i.e. number of indentations) by the system itself. Since case statement code (case statements) are well known decision data structures, it is also known that case statements rely upon numbers (i.e., enumerated variables) in the decision process, providing the advantage of a reliable code method of preserving customized layout appearances.

(Final Office Action, 4/25/02, at pp.9-10).

Appellant respectfully submits that while case statement codes are a well known computer data structure, the way in which the present invention determines which case statement code to execute would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill. In the present invention, the “case statement code corresponding to the sum value of the combination of fields” that contain user data is executed. The fact that ResuMaker allows the user to choose from a plurality of body layout styles does not imply that each field is assigned a numerical value and that the “case statement code corresponding to the sum value of the combination of fields” that contain user data is executed. Nothing in ResuMaker teaches or suggests utilizing case statement codes in such a manner. Accordingly, for this additional reason, Appellant respectfully submits that claim 34 is allowable over ResuMaker.

D. Summary of Arguments

Based on the foregoing, Appellant respectfully submits that claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 38 and 44-46 are allowable over ResuMaker in view of MS Word. Claims 2-11, 13-22, 24-33, 35-37, and 39-43 depend from claims 1, 12, 23, 34, and 38, respectively. Therefore, the arguments apply with full force to claims 2-11, 13-22, 24-33, 35-37, and 39-43. Accordingly, Appellant respectfully submits that claims 2-11, 13-22, 24-33, 35-37, and 39-43 are also allowable.

Appellant respectfully requests that the final rejection of claims 1-46 be reversed.


Note: For convenience of detachment without disturbing the integrity of the remainder of pages of this Appeal Brief, Appellant's APPENDIX A is attached on separate sheets following the signatory portion of this Appeal Brief.

This Brief is being submitted in triplicate, and authorization for payment of the required

Brief fee is contained in the cover letter for this Brief. Please charge any fee that may be necessary for the continued pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 01-0365.

Respectfully submitted,

December 23, 2002
Date



Joyce Tom
Attorney for Appellant
Reg. No. 48,681
(650) 493-4540

IX. APPENDIX A

1. (Amended) A method for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the method comprising the steps of:

a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, each one of the plurality of resume styles defining a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, wherein the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification and each resume style having a corresponding style sheet describing the resume style, including positions within the resume style of fields of data from the database;

b) collecting data from a user;

c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles;

d) automatically creating a file from the user data;

e) applying the style sheet corresponding to the selected resume style to the file to transform the file into a resume file that is viewable online and printable.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

f) repeating steps (c) – (e) until the user finalizes the resume file, thereby allowing the user to dynamically apply different styles to the resume file.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the steps of:

mapping the user information to the plurality of fields in the database; and
storing the mapped user information in the database.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of allowing the user to edit the resume file.

5. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of providing the user with an option to view the resume file.

6. The method of claim 4 further including the step of displaying the resume file.

7. The method of claim 3 further including the step of storing the resume file as a web page on the Internet.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the resume file is formatted in HTML.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein step (d) further comprises the step of utilizing XML to create the file.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein step (a) further comprises the step of providing the plurality of resume style sheets in XSL.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) further includes the step of allowing the user to select a resume type from a plurality of resume types, the resume type describing a plurality of sections in the resume and an order in which the plurality of sections will appear on the resume.

12. (Amended) A computer-readable medium for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the computer-readable medium comprising the instructions of:

- a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, each one of the plurality of resume styles defining a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, wherein the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification and each resume style having a corresponding style sheet describing the resume style, including positions within the resume style of fields of data from the database;
- b) collecting data from a user;
- c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles;
- d) automatically creating a file from the user data;
- e) applying the style sheet corresponding to the selected resume style to the file to transform the file into a resume file in the selected resume style, whereby the resume file is viewable online and printable.

13. (Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 12 further comprising the instruction of:

- f) repeating steps (c) – (e) until the user finalizes the resume file.

14. The computer-readable medium of claim 13 further comprising the instructions of:

mapping the user information to the plurality of fields in the database; and

storing the mapped user information in the database.

15. The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising the instruction of allowing the user to edit the resume file.

16. The computer-readable medium of claim 15 further comprising the instruction of providing the user with an option to view the resume file.

17. The computer-readable medium of claim 15 further comprising the instruction of displaying the resume file.

18. The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising the instruction of storing the resume file as a web page on the Internet.

19. The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the resume file is formatted in HTML.

20. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein instruction (d) further comprises an instruction for utilizing XML to create the file.

21. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein instruction (a) further includes an instruction for providing the plurality of resume style sheets in XSL.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein instruction (b) further includes the instruction of allowing the user to select a resume type from a plurality of resume types, the resume type describing a plurality of sections in the resume and an order in which the plurality of sections will appear on the resume.

23. (Amended) A system for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, comprising:

a plurality of style sheets for describing different resume styles, including positions within the resume styles of fields of data from the database, wherein each resume style defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, and the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

a user interface for collecting information from a user and for allowing the user to select a resume style from a plurality of resume styles;

means for automatically creating a file from the user data;

means for transforming the file into a resume file by applying the style sheet corresponding to the user selected resume style to the file.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein the user interface allows the user to reselect resume styles to apply to the resume file.

25. The system of claim 24 wherein the user information is mapped to the plurality of

fields in the database, and the mapped user information is stored in the database.

26. The system of claim 25 further comprising means for allowing the user to edit the resume file.

27. The system of claim 26 further including means for providing the user with an option to view the resume file.

28. The system of claim 26 wherein the resume file is displayed to the user.

29. The system of claim 25 wherein the resume file is stored as a web page on the Internet.

30. The system of claim 23, wherein the file is created using XML.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein the plurality of resume style sheets are in XSL.

32. The system of claim 31, wherein the resume file is formatted in HTML.

33. The system of claim 23, wherein the means for collecting data further includes means for allowing the user to select a resume type from a plurality of resume types, the resume type describing a plurality of sections in the resume and an order in which the plurality of sections will appear on the resume.

34. (Amended) A method for automatically providing delimiters in an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database including a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the method comprising the steps of:

assigning a numerical value to each field of the plurality of fields in the database;

providing a plurality of style sheets, each style sheet of the plurality of style sheets describing a different resume style, wherein each resume style defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, and the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

providing a plurality of case statement codes in each style sheet, wherein each case statement code represents a respective sum value of numerical values of a combination of fields associated with a section;

prompting the user to enter data into the plurality of fields;

determining the sum of the combination of fields associated with the section by adding the numerical values assigned to the fields containing user data; and

executing the case statement code corresponding to the sum value of the combination of fields to determine where the fields are positioned and where the delimiters are placed relative to the fields.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein the numerical value assigned to each field increases by twofold for each successive field.

36. The method of claim 35 further including the step of using XML to create a file

from the user data and applying a style sheet from the plurality of style sheets to transform the file into an HTML resume file.

37. The method of claim 36 further including the step of storing the HTML resume as a web page on the Internet.

38. (Amended) A method for allowing a user to customize a style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising at least one database, the at least one database comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, each one of the plurality of resume styles defining a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, wherein the plurality of formatting parameters includes margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification and each resume style having a corresponding style sheet describing the resume style, including positions within the resume style of fields of data from the database;
- b) collecting data from a user;
- c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles, the resume style having a plurality of custom settings corresponding to the plurality of formatting parameters;
- d) allowing the user to adjust the plurality of custom settings associated with the selected resume style;
- e) automatically creating a file from the user data, the user selected resume style, and the adjusted plurality of custom settings;

f) applying the style sheet corresponding to the selected resume style to the file, thereby transforming the file into a resume file that is viewable online and printable.

39. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the allowing step (d) further comprises the steps of:

d1) dividing the online resume into a plurality of common elements, the plurality of common elements being components of a resume; and

d2) allowing the user to modify the appearance of a common element of the plurality of common elements.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein the allowing step (d) further comprises the step of:

d3) allowing the user to adjust a line spacing component of the online resume, whereby the user can modify a distance between lines of the online resume.

41. (Amended) The method of claim 40 further comprising the step of:

g) repeating steps (c) – (f) until the user finalizes the resume file.

42. The method of claim 41 further comprising the steps of:

mapping the user information to the plurality of fields; and

storing the mapped user information in the at least one database.

43. The method of claim 42 further comprising the step of storing the resume file as a

web page on the Internet.

44. (Amended) A method for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the method comprising the steps of:

a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, wherein each one of the plurality of resume styles defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, the plurality of formatting parameters including margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

b) collecting data from a user;

c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles;

d) automatically creating a file from the user data;

e) transforming the file into a resume file formatted in the selected resume style that is viewable online and printable; and

f) repeating steps (c) – (e) until the user finalizes the resume file, thereby allowing the user to dynamically apply different styles to the resume file.

45. (Amended) A computer-readable medium for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, the computer-readable medium comprising the instructions of:

a) displaying a plurality of resume styles for user selection, wherein each one of the plurality of resume styles defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online

resume, the plurality of formatting parameters including margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

- b) collecting data from a user;
- c) prompting the user to select one resume style from the plurality of resume styles;
- d) automatically creating a file from the user data;
- e) transforming the file into a resume file formatted in the selected resume style,

whereby the resume file is viewable online and printable; and

- f) repeating steps (c) – (e) until the user finalizes the resume file.

46. (Amended) A system for allowing a user to dynamically change the style of an online resume that is created using an online guided resume creation system, the system comprising a plurality of fields requiring input of data, comprising:

a user interface for collecting information from a user and for allowing the user to select a resume style from a plurality of resume styles, wherein each resume style defines a plurality of formatting parameters for the entire online resume, the plurality of formatting parameters including margin settings, font type, font size, and text justification;

means for automatically creating a file from the user data;

means for transforming the file into a resume file formatted in the user selected resume style; and

means for allowing the user to reselect resume styles to apply to the resume file.